

Harlowton City Ordinance Committee Minutes
October 22, 2019
Harlowton City Hall
6:00pm

Rob Elwood called the meeting to order at 6:06 pm. Minutes of the October 8, 2019 ordinance committee meeting were approved as written.

There was no public comment.

The ordinance committee reviewed the second draft of “Ordinance/Municipal Code Variance Request Form”. This form has not been reviewed by attorney Karen Hammel yet. There were no additional changes.

Rob has not been able to review the sample “rules and regulations governing utility services” yet, so the draft Rules and Regulations binder has been passed to Frank Brouillette for review. Ian suggested that the city adopt the MT Plumbing code as recommended by the MT Rural Waters Association. Frank asked for clarification on multiple housing structures on a single plat of land and how they would be metered. Rob indicated that if there are multiple structures on one plat of land there could be a single meter; however, if there are multiple lots that are not a single plat then there would have to be multiple meters for the services.

Karen Hammel was not in attendance to discuss the repealing of Title 5 (business license and regulations).

Discussion on the community decay ordinance was held. Rob had looked into putting together a draft of the “decay” ordinance but needs guidance from Attorney Karen Hammel on the format he should use. The current format is confusing and Rob hopes to draft it in a readable and easily understood format.

Rob asked if anyone had noticed the law logs posted in the Times Clarion recently particularly referring to the number of dog complaints and how it appeared that the new ordinance wasn't being followed. Paul, Ian and Kathie had recently met with Sheriff Everett Misner regarding various topics, one of which was the dog issues. Continued monitoring of the dog issues (via the Times Clarion law log) will be done and Paul will discuss the situation with the sheriff if warranted.

Discussion was held regarding the possibility of the City of Harlowton being de-classified to a town if the 2020 census doesn't indicate a population of at least 1,000. As a town the city may have the option to not have a police force / law enforcement agreement with the county. Further research will be done on the topic.

No further review took place.

Next ordinance committee meeting will be November 12, 2019 at 6:00pm at the Harlowton City Hall.

Meeting adjourned at 6:52 pm.

Committee members Present: Frank Brouillette, Rob Elwood

City: Paul Otten, Kathie Newland, Ian Reed

Sheriff's Office: Christopher Gentile (arrived at 6:45pm)

Public Present: Jay Goucher (arrived at 6:45pm)

Other Council Present:

Rob Elwood, Committee Chair

Kathie Newland, City Clerk-Treasurer

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